



At one of our free STEAMBox Family Workshops, our education team hosted a winter ecology session, tracking animals across the freshly fallen snow around campus.

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MAINE MARITIME MUSEUM
243 Washington Street, Bath, Maine 04530
www.MaineMaritimeMuseum.org

Committed to Community



by **Christopher Timm**,
Interim Executive Director

We should never forget that our museum is part of a larger, international community of cultural institutions. As horrific images of destruction emerge from Ukraine, it is apparent many of these institutions are now reduced to rubble. The Ivankiv Historical and Local History

Artists | Maine Waters features the works of Daisy Braun, Heather Lyon, and Shoshannah White. Their works—in video, fabric and wire, and pigment prints—encourage visitors to reflect on their reliance on the oceans and our shared responsibility in preserving their future. *Looking for Winslow Homer* features an innovative stop motion animation installation by Zach Horn, inspired by Homer's sublime seascapes born along the Maine coast.



Heather Lyon, *Semaphore Love Letter*, video still, 2018.

Museum, which housed works by the prominent Ukrainian folk-artist Maria Prymachenko, was destroyed by fire near Kyiv. The Kuindzhi Art Museum was destroyed in an air strike in Mariupol. The fate of the Museum of Shipbuilding and Fleet in Mykolaiv, and a smaller maritime museum in Kharkiv, are unknown as we go to print. Such destruction is antithetical to museums' role as guardians of cultural heritage.

But adversity can strengthen a community—one that is both global and local—and moments like this are an opportunity for museums to renew a commitment to our civic mission. We must never forget that this is the heart and soul of our identity. Discovery Boatbuilding, our innovative and hands-on traditional boatbuilding program, is in its 26th year and is joined by students from schools in Georgetown, South Bristol, West Bath, and Woolwich. Sense of Place, which teaches geography, critical thinking skills, and primary source analysis using our collection, serves every second, fourth, and seventh-grader in Bath, Phippsburg, and Woolwich public schools.

Our exhibits this year are also heavily rooted in the community, as we open our galleries to regional artists and other nonprofit organizations. *Uncharted: Maine*

Later this year, we are delighted to host *Majestic Fragility II*, an installation and exhibit developed by Gulf of Maine EcoArts, a Portland-based art & science collaborative that explores ecological issues. This immersive, family-friendly

Continued on next page

Upcoming Exhibits

Fakes & Forgeries

Opens May 28

Can you detect a forgery?

Sponsored by The First, Bath Savings, and Cunningham Security

Uncharted: Maine Artists | Maine Waters

June 20 – September 18

Featuring the work of Daisy Braun, Heather Lyon, and Shoshannah White; funded in part by a grant from the Maine Arts Commission, an independent state agency supported by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Looking for Winslow Homer

June 25 – November 27

Featuring the works of Zach Horn, this installation is a celebration of and tribute to Winslow Homer's iconic seascapes.

Sponsored by Margaret E. Burnham Charitable Trust & Bath Savings



Maine Maritime Museum celebrates Maine's vibrant maritime culture.

Rhumb Line

A line on the earth's surface which intersects all meridians and parallels of latitude at the same angle. A line of constant course is a rhumb line.

Committed to Community *continued from page 1*

experience will raise awareness of the significance and biodiversity of Gulf of Maine's Cashes Ledge ecosystem, where on Ammen Rock lies the largest kelp forest on the Atlantic seaboard.

As a museum dedicated to preserving Maine's maritime culture, our collection can speak to the full range of its history—from sustainable fishing to ecological collapse, from sailors' unions to the trafficking of enslaved people, and from global trade to world war. But it is our *community* that gives these stories a voice and a purpose. We commit to a vision of a shared museum—one that sees our galleries as a space for community dialogue, our programs as a way to serve community needs, and our institution as one that is inclusive and participatory. We look forward to seeing you all.



Students from Woolwich Central School at the Discovery Boatbuilding program this winter. Photo c/o Woolwich Central School

Our Newest Team Members

Luke Small, Boatbuilding Educator



Luke is a fourth-generation educator with 15 years of experience, and a recent graduate of the Carpenter's Boat Shop, a four-month live-in boatbuilding apprenticeship in Bristol. Previously, they also helped start a nonprofit that facilitated backpacking trips for the LGBTQ community. Outside of their work at the Boatshop, Luke lives in South Portland with their partner and a 10-year-old puppy named Tucker, and enjoys playing cribbage.

Learn more about Luke's work at the Boatshop at mainemaritimemuseum.org/meet-luke-small.

Moving on up!

Please join us in congratulating the following employees who recently received promotions:

Carlyn Adams, Membership & Database Coordinator

Julianna Preston, Group Tour Coordinator

Luke Gates-Milardo, Education & Community Engagement Specialist

Andrea Headley, Development Officer



Andrea Headley joins us from the Autry Museum of the America West in Los Angeles where she worked in fundraising, marketing print production, and permanent collections over a ten-year period. She has a background in history, is an amateur photographer, has two sons (one in Texas and one in California), and after years of thinking she was exclusively a dog-person has become most definitely a cat-lady.

Amanda Pleau, Marketing & Communications Manager



Amanda was born and raised in Lewiston, then left for the West coast for a little while, and is thrilled to be back and settled in Bath with her husband Joey, their dog Russell and Crouton the cat. Amanda has a BA in Media & Communications and an MFA in Creative Writing, both from the University of Southern Maine. She usually has a podcast recommendation.

Around the Museum



Grade four students from Woolwich Central School visited as part of our *Sense of Place* program. On this trip, they learned about marine transportation and why boats were necessary on the Maine coast.



We caught a behind-the-scenes glance when WMTW's *Total Maine* with Steve Minich came by to do a story on *Cotton Town: Maine's Economic Ties to Enslavement*. We have heard from many first-time visitors that they came specifically to see *Cotton Town*, which is on view until May 8.



Selena McGonnell and Jackie Mazzone joined our curatorial team last fall as part of a two-year Institute of Museum and Library Services Museums for America grant-funded project. In their roles as collection specialists, Selena and Jackie will fully describe and photograph more than 9,000 objects, allowing for both a deeper understanding of the collections we care for and expanded online access. Keep an eye out for some fun finds throughout the duration of the project!



Opening reception for *Arthur Beaumont: Art of the Sea*, an exhibit celebrating Beaumont's decades-long career as the U.S. Navy's official artist.

Zach Horn *Looking for Winslow Homer*

Zach Horn's search for Winslow Homer's iconic breakers leads him back to Maine's coast time after time. Horn, a Massachusetts-based artist, has been hooked on our rocky shores since he was a student and first took in the sublime rhythmic beauty of the pounding waves crashing onto ledges. After seeing those seascapes firsthand, he finally understood the psychological scale of Homer's paintings. Now, Horn seeks to find the same solace that he finds in Homer's seascapes through his own works.

Homer's vantage point from his home on Prouts Neck, a peninsula just south of Portland where he painted many of his most beloved seascapes, offered him a pristine view of the sea. And while Prouts Neck is unique and beautiful, the scenes he painted are also common along Maine's jagged and winding coast.

Horn's approach to his art is grounded in the everyday experiences of being in nature. He invokes awe in the grandeur of the sea while simultaneously promoting the temporal joy of a day spent at the beach. The experience of visiting Maine's coastline would not be the same without a picnic or ice cream.

Looking for Winslow Homer, Horn's exhibition this summer at Maine Maritime Museum, includes videos, sculptural works, and paintings. Each element connects back to his experiences seeing Maine through Homer's eyes and his own. From coastal seascapes to picnic blankets, Horn's unique works invite visitors to consider their relationship with Maine's coast and recall the joy, serenity, and beauty of the sea.

Sponsored by Margaret E. Burnham Charitable Trust & Bath Savings

Introducing the Sail Shed by Long Reach Kitchen & Catering



by **Amanda Pleau,**
Marketing & Communications Manager

In March of 2021, Mollie Jellison and her father Terry Geaghan found themselves in a pickle. Mollie had recently moved back to Maine with her family to start a restaurant with her father; they had a talented front-of-house team, a kitchen staff, and a vision, but suddenly, no location.

“There’s no manual to start a restaurant in Maine. There’s a lot of trial and error,” Mollie said. Somehow, less than two months later with some luck, some elbow grease and a few favors, they opened Long Reach Kitchen and Catering at the Bath Golf Club.



“It took a little while for people to know we were there,” Terry said. Eventually, people understood it wasn’t a private golf club and LRK&C steadily built a following over the summer.

“We helped bring people out to the club that hadn’t been there in a long time. It was a culture shift. This is an actual restaurant where you can get a great meal and a really nice cocktail, no longer just simple burgers and dogs,” Mollie explained.

Now with a successful year of service behind them, the team began to look ahead to new opportunities. And that’s when they received a call from Maine Maritime Museum.

Mollie and Terry actually have a long history with the museum. Mollie grew up in Bath and remembers Schooner Fare concerts in the summer, and the museum, in general, being a big part of her childhood. Terry, a former advisory board member, in fact built the diorama of the Percy & Small Shipyard that lives at the entrance of the shipyard, an important tool to help visitors understand at-a-glance what was happening at the shipyard more than 100 years ago. Partnering with Long Reach Kitchen and Catering to bring our guests on-site food service at the Sail Shed, formerly known as the Even Keel Café, will help the museum renew and reinforce our connection to the community; we want to be seen as a resource and a destination for everyone. And with the Sail Shed, the museum can now offer visitors both local and from away a true full-day, on-campus experience.

“When you have children, it’s so much easier to go and have a one-stop experience,” Mollie confirmed. “Where the Sail Shed is oriented, Mom and Dad can enjoy a meal and sit out on the lawn and let the kids go play and relax.”



We also hope the Sail Shed becomes a destination for members to come and enjoy throughout the season. Not only that, we’re exploring many ways to further accommodate our guests; snack boxes to enjoy during one of our concerts in partnership with Chocolate Church Arts Center, a QR code aboard the *Merrymeeting* to order food in advance, lunch for our campers, and more.

“There isn’t a prettier place on the face of the earth to have a lobster roll than sitting down by the water here,” Terry said, and we couldn’t agree more.

Sample Menu

Soup, Salad & Snacks



Maine Haddock Chowder potatoes, onion, cream, seafood stock, bacon, parsley

Daily Soup rotating selection

Southern Style Pimento Cheese assorted crackers

Chilled Old Bay Poached Shrimp Plate house-made cocktail sauce, fresh lemon

Mixed Greens Salad spring mix, Bermuda onion, local cherry tomatoes, English cucumber, shredded carrot, choice of dressing, *add grilled chicken, crab salad, lobster salad, avocado*



Sandwiches

Fresh Picked Lobster Roll chilled locally caught lobster, mayo, butter grilled split-top brioche roll

Fresh Picked Maine Crab Roll sweet local crabmeat, mayo, butter grilled split-top brioche roll

Chicken Salad Sandwich celery, Bermuda onion, mayo, leaf lettuce & local tomato, sourdough

B.L.T. Thick-cut hardwood smoked bacon, leaf lettuce, local tomato, mayo *add avocado, cheddar*

Hummus Wrap spring mix, local tomato, Bermuda onion, English cucumber, marinated portabella mushroom, shredded carrot *add avocado, cheddar*

Grilled Cheese Pineland Farms cheddar, sourdough, sweet cream butter *add bacon, tomato*

Black Forest Ham & Pineland Farms Cheddar leaf lettuce, tomato, sourdough *add bacon*

Steamed Natural Casing Hot Dog New England style split-top roll

Sides, Sweets & Drinks

Fox’s of Maine Potato Chips
Slice of Maine Blueberry Pie
Classic Whoopie Pie
Hood Ice Cream Sandwich
House-Brewed Iced Tea
Swift River Coffee
Fresh-Made Lemonade

In Plain Sight – Kennebec Ice



by **Kelly Page,**
Collections and Library Services Manager

With the onset of warmer weather, Mainers and visitors alike are on the cusp of enjoying the opportunities that a Maine summer provides. It is a time when waterfronts begin to buzz with seasonal industries and activities and the stalling effects of a frigid winter fade from memory.

For a period of Maine's history, this was not so much the case. During the latter-half of the 19th century, Maine was the center of a major inland waterway industry, one that actually relied on wintry conditions, employed thousands of people, and the need for it was fueled by the return of summer weather—ice.

The image you see here, c. 1890, depicts schooners lined up along Richmond riverbanks ready to fill their holds with ice. The town of Richmond claimed such a high concentration of ice houses on its riverbanks that this part of town was dubbed Iceboro, a moniker that still shows up on maps today. This view alone shows five of them. Iceboro even had its own post office in the 1870s and 1880s. There is no present-day evidence at this site of the significant industry that existed here.

While Maine ice made its way to Southern ports and distant, tropical climates, there was also a major need in domestic urban areas. “Big Ice” developed with smaller, local operations being bought out by those based in cities such as Baltimore, New York, and Philadelphia. Most significantly, a monopoly over ice



Schooners waiting to load ice at Iceboro, MMM Photographic Reference Collection.

The center of this frozen water trade was a 20 mile stretch of the Kennebec River—from top of Merrymeeting Bay to Augusta. When ice was at least 12 inches thick, ice harvesters measured and marked the frozen surfaces of bodies of water all over Maine to be sawed into blocks of ice. The ice was then stacked in huge warehouse structures using ramp and elevator systems to await the spring thaw for transport. The wintry harvest could yield over 1,000,000 tons of ice from this segment of the Kennebec, which was lauded for its quality clear ice. In today's dollars this equates to a billion-dollar industry.

The season for shipping ice was late spring to the late fall. The cargo was insulated using hay or wood-waste products such as shavings, chips, or sawdust. Shockingly, the melt was minimal—even to tropical climates—rarely reaching a 30% loss. The ice remaining in the ice houses at the end of the shipping season also saw little loss and became part of the next season's cargoes.

distribution in New York City resulted in price-fixing in the midst of summer heat waves. While the ice industry was ultimately killed by the development of refrigeration, the monopoly hastened the shift from natural ice—even amid skepticism of “artificial” ice. As a result, Maine's frozen-water commerce ultimately expired in the early 1900s and what remained was largely for local consumption.

Thank You Main Street Bath



Maine Maritime Museum would like to thank Main Street Bath for their support to the community and local businesses with the recent Winter Fest held on February 26 and the Bee Bath, Buy Bath program that wrapped up on March 31. These and other vital community events and programs organized by Main Street Bath and its standing committees keep our town, its businesses, and its people thriving. Visit their website (VisitBath.com) for information on local businesses, attractions, and events.



Bath Winter Fest. Photos by Sara Moore

Giving to Maine Maritime Museum

Honor/Memorial Gifts

10/13/2021 – 3/3/2022

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Welcome New Members

10/7/2021 – 2/25/2022

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Sara “Sally” Graves,
Parker Society Member



Long-time museum supporter, past trustee, and Parker Society member Sally Graves died unexpectedly on October 17, 2021. Born on Long Island, Sally spent almost all of her summers in Maine at Small Point, eventually building a home in West Bath with her husband Jon. An English as a Second Language teacher for more than 30 years, she was also deeply community-minded. In addition to serving on the Maine Maritime Museum board from 2003 to 2009, Sally was a trustee and committee member for the Cold Spring Harbor Whaling Museum, Mid Coast Hospital, Bath Garden Club, and West Bath Historical Society.

A supporter of MMM since 1989, Sally generously left the museum a bequest in her will. Her gift enrolls her in the Parker Society, which honors those who have made planned gifts benefiting the museum. Sally’s legacy here at Maine Maritime Museum will continue her commitment to the community she so deeply supported and cared for.

Upcoming Events

Apr 30, 6–7 pm: PERFORMANCE
The Malaga Ship Story: A Performance by Antonio Rocha, Storyteller, \$16/\$20

May 5, 6–7 pm: LECTURE
African American Maritime History in Maine – *Bob Greene, Journalist & Recipient of Maine Historical Society’s Neal Allen Award, Free*

May 14, 11–2 pm: COMMUNITY DAY!
FREE admission, \$10 cruises, raising of the flags over the *Wyoming*, cannon salute, traditional skills demonstrations & more.

May 19, 6–7 pm: VIRTUAL LECTURE
Maine Seafaring Families and the Atlantic Slave Trade – *Kate McMahon, Museum Specialist, Smithsonian National Museum of African American History & Culture, Scholarly Advisor to Atlantic Black Box, Free*

June 9, 6–7 pm: LECTURE
Art Crime in New England – *Tim Carpenter, Art Crime Program Manager, and Geoff Kelly, Special Agent New England Region, Federal Bureau of Investigations Art Crime Unit, Free*

June 22, 1–3 pm: WORKSHOP
Wine and Paint Workshop: Intro to Painting the Ocean, *Zach Horn, \$20/\$25*

June 22, 6–7 pm: LECTURE
Looking for Winslow Homer: Artist Talk, Zach Horn, Free

July 14, 1–3 pm: WORKSHOP
Spectral Imaging Lab: Hands-On Experiments with Painting and Light, *Kate Smith, Conservator of Paintings and Head of Paintings Lab, Harvard Art Museums \$16/\$20*

July 14, 5–6 pm: LECTURE
Spectral Imaging and Painting Conservation, *Kate Smith, Conservator of Paintings and Head of Paintings Lab, Harvard Art Museums, Free*

July 20, 6–7 pm: VIRTUAL LECTURE
Winslow Homer: Painting Maine’s Coast, *Diana Greenwold, Lunder Curator of American Art, Smithsonian’s Freer & Sackler Galleries, Free*

Aug 11, 6–7 pm: LECTURE
Investigating Authenticity: South Asian Export Art – *Siddhartha Shah, Peabody Essex Museum, Curator of South Asian Art and Director of Education and Civic Engagement, Free*

Aug 25, 6–7 pm: LECTURE
Coal and Ice: Artist Talk, *Shoshannah White, Free*

Sept 10, TBD: PINTS ON THE PIER
Join us on the Percy & Small Shipyard to sample some of Maine’s best beers, ciders, & more.

Oct 20, 6–7 pm: LECTURE
Photographing the Scenic Coast of Maine, *Benjamin Williamson, Staff Photographer, Down East Magazine, Free*



Lighthouse and Nature Cruises

The best way to enjoy Midcoast Maine’s beautiful scenery is from the water. Board our comfortable cruise boat Merrymeeting for one of our daily narrated cruises. Enjoy the area’s abundant wildlife, see lobstermen at work hauling traps, and get an up-close look at up to 10 of Maine’s most iconic lighthouses... all in one trip!

Summer Cruise Schedule

Cruise	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Shipyard & Lighthouses (1 hr.)	12 2	12 2	12 2	12 2	12 2	12 2	12 2
Midcoast Lights and Rivers (3 hrs.)	3:30	3:30	3:30	3:30			
Six Rivers of Merrymeeting Bay (3 hrs.)							3:30
Mini Mariners (30 mins.)						10	
Lighthouse Lovers (4 hrs.)						3:30	

Fall Cruise Schedule

Cruise	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Shipyard & Lighthouses (1 hr.)	12 2	12 2	12 2	12 2	12 2	12 2	12 2
Autumn Lights Cruise (2 hrs.)	3:30	3:30	3:30	3:30		3:30	



To view complete cruise descriptions and book your tickets, scan this code or visit www.MaineMaritimeMuseum.org



Boatshop Workshops

Building an Adirondack Chair

Members \$225; Nonmembers \$245

JULY 16, 10 AM–3:30 PM

Join us in the historic Percy & Small Shipyard at the museum for our third-annual **outdoor** Adirondack chair class! Learn to build your own Adirondack chair using the same cedar that the Boatshop uses to plank boats. Bring lunch or stop by the Sail Shed and spend the day building, then end the day enjoying the breeze off the Kennebec while you kick back in your new chair. No woodworking experience is necessary, just a willingness to try hard and a love of comfortable chairs.



Shaker Box Making

Members \$96; Nonmembers \$120

OCTOBER 12 & 13, 5–8 PM

DECEMBER 7 & 8, 5–8 PM

The Shakers are famous for their simple and elegant designs, and the Shaker oval box is no exception. Over two evenings in the Boatshop, you'll build a set of three nesting oval boxes using boatbuilding techniques such as clinch nailing and steam bending. No experience is required; this class is a fantastic introduction to woodworking. Boxes are made from cherry and cedar, and all materials are provided.

Building a Fireside Stool

Members \$90; Nonmembers \$113

NOVEMBER 9 & 10, 5–8 PM

This solid three-legged pine stool has no fasteners and is held together only with tight joinery. It is perfect for sitting by the fire, working in the home



Oar Making

Members \$299; Nonmembers \$340

THREE SESSIONS, WEDNESDAY 5–8 PM

OCTOBER 19, 26 & NOVEMBER 2

Spend time in our boatshop and learn how to make a set of oars out of coastal Maine spruce. We teach a simple yet elegant design that is both functional and worthy of display. No experience is necessary as we will walk you through the steps and tools required to complete this project. You will use traditional hand tools including spokeshaves and draw knives and finish the oars with traditional leatherwork. The fun doesn't stop at the end of this class because you'll get to take home a set of oars that you can use for years to come!

Make a Nautical Inspired Charcuterie or Cribbage Board

Members \$85; Nonmembers \$106

DECEMBER 14, 15 FROM 5–7 PM



to give as a beautiful handmade gift. We will teach you how to make a board in a fun nautical-inspired shape. This board could be finished in food-safe oil and used to serve food on or with slight modification in plans can be turned into a cribbage board to elevate game night. No experience is required. All materials included; please bring your creativity!

shop, or as a perch for your cat or plant. No woodworking experience is necessary to make this beautiful and functional work of art—over 200 have been built by our 5th to 8th-grade Discovery Boatbuilding students.



Summer Concert Series

on the Percy & Small Shipyard

in Partnership with
Chocolate Church Arts Center

Lady Lamb

Indie Singer/Songwriter

MAY 22

6–8 PM

Tickets: \$28 Advance / \$34 Day of Show; (Nonmembers can include museum admission at 2 pm for an extra \$5; members enjoy free admission all year)

Doors: 5pm / Show: 6pm

Rain or Shine

David Mallett

Folk

JUNE 18

6–8 PM

Tickets: \$25 Advance / \$30 Day of Show; (Nonmembers can include museum admission at 2 pm for an extra \$5; members enjoy free admission all year)

Doors: 5pm / Show: 6pm

Rain or Shine

Boatshop Update



by Kurt Spiridakis,
Director of Watercraft and Traditional Skills

Discovery Boatbuilding

We were lucky to get all four schools back in the Boatshop in September, after the pandemic reduced our program capacity to 50%. 56 students spent the first semester learning about tools and woodworking, and each built a three-legged stool, a toolbox, and a half model. For the first time in the history of the program (and perhaps any museum offering), we have a second-generation boatbuilder in the class! South Bristol 8th-grader Avalee Brightman-Uhl is the daughter of former student Amanda Sykes, part of the inaugural class of 1996, 27 years ago!



Boatshop students, volunteers, and staff are in the thick of boatbuilding, churning out eight skiffs this winter and spring. We've currently sent over 3,000 linear feet of Maine white cedar through our sawmill and planer, and students will have filled approximately 11,000 knots by the time the hulls are complete.

Despite being the coldest (and longest) winter in recent memory, we've managed to open our shop windows every month of the year to increase ventilation and provide a safe and spacious work environment

for students. We've closed the shop to guests during class hours, and we are optimistic the space can become an inviting and welcoming exhibit space this fall. This year represents our 27th year of working with South Bristol School, 14th with Woolwich Central School, 6th with West Bath School, and 5th with Georgetown Central School.

Around the Shop: Adirondack chairs

Boatshop volunteers are building eight Adirondack chairs to be used as additional seating for guests around campus. These are made of northern white cedar scraps leftover from getting out boat planks. Look for these to dot the gardens and waterfront this summer!



Watercraft Collection

The multi-stage process of improving the boat barn's storage is nearly complete! After removing all but a few large vessels from the space and tearing down the storage structure, we hired out the moving of the tugboat *Seguin's* compound steam engine, weighing in at 17,500 lbs. We then cleaned the space and installed a new rack system that is strong, safe, and efficient. As of today we've placed 19 boats on the racks, and each is sitting on a custom cradle to ensure proper preservation of the hull. The increased floor space allows the forklift to be operated safely and the ability to add more vessels as needed. We are looking forward to having this project finished soon!



Once the racks are filled, we will turn our attention to the Watercraft Restoration Center, a working exhibit set to open this summer. Highlights include a visitor viewing area to observe and engage with staff and volunteers who will work to restore, reproduce, and preserve both vessels in our collection and donated boats to be sold. The Center, located in the basement of the Boatshop, will increase our total watercraft exhibit space, and provide an interactive exhibit in addition to our working Boatshop.

Volunteer News

Our 270 volunteers (and counting) take so much pride in their roles at Maine Maritime Museum. Spread out over a dozen regular positions, museum volunteers have a massive impact on day-to-day operations. From keeping the grounds tidy to assisting museum educators with school programs, volunteers' passion to give back adds richness and depth to all museum ventures.



Every spring MMM begins volunteer orientation, which involves bringing hopeful volunteers up to speed on the museum's history, educating them on our mission, and training them on the functions of their new position. While much of the training is facilitated by museum staff, a few veteran volunteers have taken ownership of their position's training programs to develop and execute themselves. Volunteer leaders representing positions such as Percy & Small Shipyard guides and Bath Iron Works tour guides have worked with staff over years to develop their own training curriculum based on years of volunteer experience, perspective, and practice. This includes authoring training manuals and lesson plans, coordinating lectures, and conducting practical application examinations. Because volunteers have a large presence on the campus interacting with guests, these volunteer leaders ensure all new volunteers are best prepared to assist them. Volunteers such as these are passing their knowledge and expertise along to new volunteers year after year because they care. They care about the museum, they care about its impact on the community. It also happens to be challenging, fulfilling, and often, meaningful friendships are formed in the process.



Another way our volunteers exhibit leadership is by joining the Volunteer Council. Every other month, a group of 10 volunteers representing the various major volunteer activity groups meet to discuss volunteer-related agendas. These meetings are a place for representatives to get feedback on issues their members would like to discuss, and present suggestions for improvement or new ideas. Upper-level staff are present, giving the volunteers a direct line to museum leadership. This gives volunteers a "seat at the table," space for their questions, concerns, and voices to be heard. Lastly, the chair of the Volunteer Council is also given a seat on the museum's Board of Trustees. Volunteers on the council join because they believe in MMM's mission and want to do their part to make it as great of a museum as it can be.

We truly could not do what we do without so many incredible volunteers – thank you all for your dedication and passion. See you this summer!



Volunteer Breakfast

We're gearing up for a great summer season! Before heading into a busy few weeks of volunteer recruitment and training, we welcomed our volunteers late this spring for a complimentary breakfast and an informative presentation from the Tate House Museum.



Interested in volunteering?

We are actively recruiting and training volunteers. Please reach out to info@maritimeme.org to connect with a staff person today!

Re-Building a *Sense of Place*



by Sarah Timm,
Manager of Education

In 2016, Maine Maritime Museum launched an ambitious program introducing local history to all second, fourth, and seventh-graders in Regional School District 1 (RSU1). This program, *Sense of Place*, serves over 600 students every academic year. Now in its sixth year, we can see the program’s impact in the excitement of seventh-graders recounting their second and fourth-grade visits.

In March 2020, school closures and the following shift to remote learning led to an 18-month suspension of the *Sense of Place* program. Rather than shelve the program until the tides shifted, we recognized an opportunity to evaluate how well *Sense of Place* was meeting the needs of our community.

We found the answer by simply asking and listening. Over the summer of 2021, our listening forums with seventh-grade teachers resulted in mixed feedback. While their students loved the museum visits, teachers were finding it difficult to connect their classroom curriculum to the program content. This was a major blow and I share this publically because it holds a valuable lesson: in order to be an effective community partner, you must remain in touch with evolving community needs.

What we initially thought would be simple program tweaks turned into an entire curriculum overhaul designed in collaboration with RSU1 teachers. After a year of remote learning, teachers advocated for a stronger emphasis on critical thinking skills, bias identification, and more relatable content for a middle school audience.

In Fall 2021, MMM relaunched *Sense of Place*. Over the course of four visits, our seventh-grade students now interact with over 44 artifacts from our collection that challenge them to (re)consider how historical primary sources support or contradict their own understanding of local histories, helping them build



a more complex, nuanced perspective of their communities, past and present. Seventh grade ELA teacher Adelle Carter describes the result, “Students have an opportunity to explore their local history beyond what I’m able to provide in my classroom. MMM educators facilitate hands-on analysis of authentic artifacts and incorporate higher-level critical thinking skills. Each visit builds off the next at a level that’s just right for my students.” The revised program now directly parallels the RSU1 geography curriculum; using case studies in local history to illustrate the global economic and social systems they are learning in the classroom.

With each visit, students are asked to synthesize their learning through creative projects that will be featured in a new exhibit, *Building a Sense of Place*, opening May 14. And the work continues. MMM has received NEH funding to continue our collaborative work with second and fourth-grade RSU1 teachers during Summer 2022.

Interested in learning more about the *Sense of Place* program? Check out our full program description at MaineMaritimeMuseum.org/learn.

Sense of Place is fully funded through individual and grant contributions.

Get Your 2022 Boat Raffle Tickets!

This rowboat could be yours! This Yankee Tender Skiff was built by our 2016 Discovery Boatbuilding class of 7th and 8th graders. It was recently donated back to the Boatshop & is awaiting a new home! Raffle tickets are available at the front desk.



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